

months that I was able to travel throughout the district.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude once again by talking about the freshman class. When I first got elected to Congress, I had heard a little bit about this class status, I heard a little bit about the freshman class, the sophomore class and so on.

It works almost like high school. Those that got elected in a certain year, they would come here and have to go through the orientation process, learn about the institution at the same pace and learn about it together. But they are also elected under the pretense of a certain set of issues.

Every election year seems to define for itself a certain mood that is prevalent throughout the country. What we discovered is that 34 Members came here from throughout the country, unified in our belief that the American people are taxed in excess, that our government at the Federal level is far too big, and, as such, threatens real freedom and real liberty throughout the country, and that the best way to ensure real freedom and real liberty and real participation, economically and politically, is not through bigger Federal involvement and a bigger Federal Government, but by a smaller one, one which defers to the wisdom of states, all 50 of them, including territories, and local governments, and, even more so, defers to the people themselves.

We are unified in our vision that the size of the Federal Government needs to be contained, it needs to be reduced, and that we do need to empower people back home in ways that historically and traditionally we know leads to more prosperity in the country.

Those are the issues that define our class, the 34 Members that got elected in 1996. Those are the issues that define the projects that we are moving forward on, that define the issues that we fight for passionately here on the House floor, and it defines the issues that we speak about frequently and that we discuss often.

Our agenda is one that we are very committed to. It is an agenda that we believe is playing a primary role in driving the overall message we are sending as a majority Republican party here in Washington, and it is one that we look forward to engaging in vigorously with those on the left side, the Democratic side of the floor, who would disagree.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. McKEON (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for 4 p.m. today and February 5, on account of official business.

Mr. HERGER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and on February 5, on account of family matters.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legis-

lative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. STUPAK) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BISHOP, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BERRY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SANCHEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FORD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCHALE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DIXON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RUSH, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BOUCHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CLEMENT, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOSSELLA) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HUTCHINSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HILL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHAYS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. TALENT, and to include extraneous material, notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds 2 pages of the RECORD, and is estimated by the Public Printer to cost \$1,161.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. STUPAK) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. RAHALL.

Mr. BERMAN.

Mr. SCOTT.

Mr. MANTON.

Ms. HARMAN.

Mr. ETHERIDGE.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri.

Mr. WISE.

Ms. WOOLSEY.

Mr. DELLUMS.

Mr. DIXON.

Mr. BONIOR.

Mr. SERRANO.

Mr. ENGEL.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. GORDON.

Mr. TOWNS.

Mr. KIND.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOSSELLA) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. GOODLING.

Mr. BEREUTER.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon.

Mr. WALSH.

Mrs. MORELLA.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

Mr. GEKAS.

Mr. GALLEGLY.

Mr. NORWOOD.

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. SHAW.

Mr. HOUGHTON.

Mr. CALVERT.

Mr. ROHRABACHER.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. COYNE.

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. SANDLIN.

Mr. LATOURETTE.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1271. An act to authorize the Federal Aviation Administration's research, engineering, and development programs for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3042. An act to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to establish the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to conduct environmental conflict resolution and training, and for other purposes.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1564. An act to provide redress for inadequate restitution of assets seized by the United States Government during World War II which belonged to victims of the Holocaust, and for other purposes.

#### BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following titles:

On February 4, 1998:

H.R. 1271. An act to authorize the Federal Aviation Administration's research, engineering, and development programs for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3042. An act to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy of 1992 to establish the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to conduct environmental conflict resolution and training, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 9 minutes